AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method for extending the effective period during which tissue treated with a clostridial toxin is paralyzed comprising:

   a) contacting said tissue with a composition comprising an agent able to prevent the expression of a neurotrophic polypeptide, and

   b) contacting said tissue with a clostridial neurotoxin,

   wherein neural sprouting in said treated tissue is inhibited.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs at the same time as said tissue is treated with said clostridial toxin.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs prior to treatment of said tissue with said clostridial toxin.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said clostridial toxin comprises BoNT.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said clostridial toxin comprises BoNT/A.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said agent is selected from the group consisting of:

   a) an antibody able to selectively bind said polypeptide,

   b) a competitive inhibitor of said polypeptide,

   c) a compound able to selectively prevent the expression of a gene encoding said polypeptide,

d) a binding protein other than an antibody, and

e) a ribozyme,

f) a nucleic acid encoding an inactive growth factor receptor able to bind said growth factor.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said agent is an antibody able to selectively bind said polypeptide.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said agent is a competitive inhibitor of said polypeptide.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said agent is a compound able to prevent the expression of a gene encoding said polypeptide.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said agent is a binding protein other than an antibody.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of IGF I and IGF II, and said binding protein is selected from the group consisting of IGF-BP4 and IGF-BP5.

12. (Original) A method for stimulating the outgrowth of neural sprouts from damaged neural tissue comprising: contacting said tissue with a composition comprising a polypeptide which comprises a neurotropically active domain derived from an agent selected from the group consisting of IGF I, IGF II, cilary neurotrophic factor, NT-3, NT-4, brain-derived neurotrophic factor, leukemia inhibitory factor, tenascin-C, ninjurin, neural cell adhesion molecule, and neural agrin.

13. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises

{PRIVATE }
IGF I.

14. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises IGF II.

15. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises NT-3.

16. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises ciliary neurotrophic factor.

17. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises NT-3.

18. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises NT-4.

19. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises brain-derived neurotrophic factor.

20. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises leukemia inhibitory factor.

21. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises tenascin-C.

22. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises ninjurin.

23. (Currently amended) The method ~~of claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises neural-cell adhesion molecule.

24. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein said agent comprises neural agrin.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of: IGF I, IGF II, cilary neurotrophic factor, NT-3, NT-4, brain-derived neurotrophic factor, leukemia inhibitory factor, tenascin-C, ninjurin, neural cell adhesion molecule, and neural agrin.